

An Inaugural dissertation
on
Sclerosis
For the degree of Medicine
Addressed
To
The Medical Faculty
of the
University of Pennsylvania
by
Thomas Miller Jr.
of
Washington City D.C.

1829



To

Doc. Henry Hunt

of

Washington City,

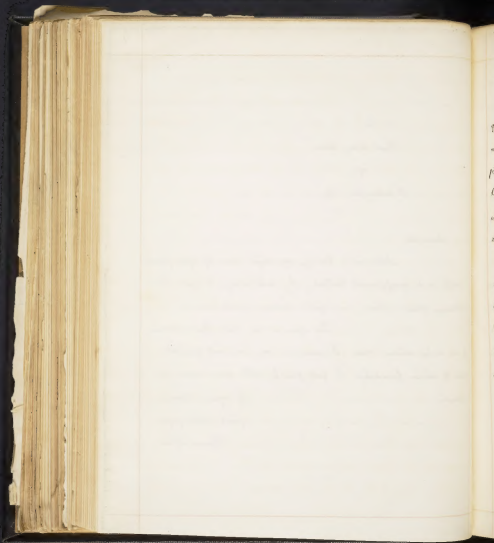
Dear Sir,

Allow me to testify my high sense of your private worth, and professional talents, by dedicating to you the following paper, being my first medical production.

Please inform me, that the recollection of one under whose care I commenced my medical pursuits, and of whose friendship I feel proud, will ever warm the breast—

of your sincere
friend and pupil

Thomas M. Miller



History of Jaundice

From ancient authority we learn the antiquity of this disease. By the Greeks it was denominated ΙΚΤΕΡΟΣ a term given to the Golden Urch, or pheasant on account of its plumage. This bird was fabled to be closely connected with the disease, and hence it was believed that if a patient labouring under it, should look at the pheasant, the bird immediately died, and the patient recovered.

Celsus informs us that it prevailed among the Romans under the name of Morbus Aegreus, or Regius. The origin of the terms are somewhat curious; My Jaundice should have received the name of Aegreus, I am unable to conceive, unless from the variety of shades the disease is wont to assume, the word Aegreus, meaning a rainbow. We are told by Celsus, that it obtained the name denomination of Regius, from its being caused by all kind of spices. He explains it thus, 'hæc fœco hædit lacinia perque mæis exaltation, at que Regius malus dicitur videtur'. It has been noted by many writers, both ancient and modern, Avicenna, evidently



in consequence of its golden colour.

Idiocy prevails most frequently in warm climates, attacking promiscuously persons of all ages, sex, and condition. Thus we are told by an author of much celebrity, that an age or sex escapes. It is incident to infancy, and every subsequent period of existence. Generally, however it is met with in those somewhat advanced in life, and more perhaps in males than in females; tho' the difference is not so great as is generally supposed, "men, women and children are equally liable to the malady." In a continued succession of one hundred patients "I counted" says Heberden fifty two males, and forty eight females. Those who are most subject to this disease are the studious, the sedentary, the indolent, the Hypochondriac, the hysterical, and those who require at least provision in attending to their avocations. It occurs frequently in the dissipated, and more particularly in the intemperate, and debauched, and persons who are afflicted with local complaints. Those who have been once attacked with jaundice are very liable to a recurrence of it.

It has been attributed to a great

quantity of bile being mixed with the fluids in consequence of an impediment to its passage into the duodenum. Hence it is diffused universally through the body, tinging all parts as well as the secretions. The color of the skin according to its intensity giving origin to the several denominations of green, black, and yellow Jaundice. Persons are attacked by this disease with different degrees of violence. It is not uncommon to see patients attending to their usual avocations while labouring under Jaundice; not experiencing any, or but slight inconvenience from it. The period of duration ^{has} differs much in some, it will remain for many months, or years, producing no very considerable injury to the constitution, while in others it will disappear in a few days.

Symptoms of Jaundice

The approach of the malady is indicated by much languor, inactivity and depression of spirits, anorexia, headache, precordial uneasiness, with considerable gastric derangement, indicated by flatulence, acid eructations, nausea, vomiting, and sometimes cramps, and ~~aching~~ ^{aching} pains. Dr. Chapman says that these so frequently prove the precursors of this disease, that from their occurrence, its



invasion with some, may certainly be predicted. The bowels are sometimes constipated, and when in this state the stool presents an extraordinary clay colour. Sometimes there is much increased action of the salivary glands, but the patient being prone to vomit, no vomiting occurs, and of a yellow brown or saffron hue, staining those which are dipped in it of an orange colour. There are sometimes in the upper extremities in the mouth. The tongue it is said is rarely changed. The patient has great thirst, and is of course, with the exception of an increased diminution of the disease continuing for some time, will often remain at the patient very much. These symptoms are soon succeeded by another series. The skin which from the head downwards, is now affected with a most troublesome itching. The conjunctivae of the eyes and the skin of the head, cheeks and neck become lined, of a yellow colour, which in some cases spreads over the whole body profusely, but in others is confined. I have seen, says Dr Chapman, (the exposure) restricted to the eyes, and many other instances early the face, it is necessary it is sometimes confined to a large dorsal section of the body. Boisson says he recollects a case attended with emphysema, when the patient did only vomit so continuously



observed, that but one half of the nose was coloured. Broussais says, similar, as to be met with in the writings of Valart, Et Müller, Defau, and others." The yellowness of the skin sometimes comes on suddenly, without any premonitory symptoms.

The colour of the skin in this disease, (which is the great diagnosticum) generally corresponds with that which may be produced by adding bile to a certain quantity of water, giving it a yellow or brown colour. It is sometimes of a more deeper taw, varying from a yellow to a black. The latter however, occurs that it has perhaps induced many to doubt its existence notwithstanding there is high authority in the former. Dr Baillie is undoubtedly an advocate for it as we may see by a reference to his medical Anatomy. The symptoms of this do not vary, essentially, in those that characterize the other species, except in the intensity of the colour of the skin.

Instances are on record of these varieties existing in the same patient, and at the same time. Thus we are informed that Saegoni had a patient whose face was green to the throat, while the right side was black, red.



the left elbow. The action of the bowels regular, yet an attack of hæmorrhoids.
It is necessary for time to pass, it is accompanied with other local morbid
conditions. There is often pain in the stomach, particular spasms, or
convulsed contractions, sometimes for some time, coming on after
many of the other symptoms have ceased some days.

The pulse in "Mendell" is said to
vary much in some cases. It is not slow or but slightly affec-
ted. In others it is weaker and stronger than usual, although
it is frequently weak, slow and hard. "The pulse says Dr. Chapman
"is full, hard and strong, and sometimes habitually, and even
intermittent". Sometimes as the case in which there is little or no
disturbance of the circulation, although there is a sense of
tremor, or throbbing in the head, with palpitations of the heart, also
the anxieties and worries about the procreancy. The tension
and stiffness go on increasing, with dullness and stupidity,
almost to fatuity. It is said that the sight is much affected,
in fact, every thing appearing a kind of yellow haze. This
opinion does not seem to be universally entertained. By some
writers it is positively denied while, by others it is strenuously



adverted as a constant occurrence. Dr. Chapman says in opo-
tine of it. My allusion is more particular; the all object being
one of a kind or series but not which can be observed
to appear from the following lines of Virchow, Suida
protona sunt, quatuordecim brevitur, arguatur etc.

... ..

Many writers to the same effect as that of Galen, Hygieus, Boer-
haave, Van Swieten, Hoffman, and others, who speak in this manner
see it. But long and general as are their actions been contained,
it is doubted by some whether there is any foundation for it; and
certainly it is by no means a common occurrence. The fact was first
denied by Mercutio, and Stiller.

As we told, that of it his interest patients, he had but two
who confessed its existence; and this testimony he distributed.
Dr. C's experience is against it.

Dr. Good in his study of medicine,
says "when a student by long continued pressure of the finger-
tip, against the edge of a table &c. I can confirm the general
opinion; for the first suspicion I had of being affected with female



was from the yellow haze with which every thing around me appeared to be covered. From this difference of opinion it would be a fair inference ~~to be made~~ that it is not an universal attendant on the disease; for in no other case can we account for the disappearance of Scurvy. As compared to Jaundice we find, when our venous dark system fails, we have dropping, obstructions, congestions &c.

The patient ultimately falling into a cachectic state, gradually wastes away, and sinks into an eternal Slumber. At this time he is suddenly relieved of all pain, and dies without a groan. This is not uncommon for him to go off, while experiencing the most excruciating torments. Although the symptoms above enumerated, accompany most of the attacks of Jaundice, they are not universal attendants. Scarcely will an attack be met with, in which they are all, developed. In some cases nothing more will be perceptible than a yellow colour, of the conjunctiva, or of the skin, or of the face. The latter was the end of the disease in a patient attended by Dr. McLean.

It may not be easy to promise him recovery upon the causes &c. of this complaint, a few remarks on the appearance of the liver, and its position, the bile, as I am



discovered in Jaundice, And first of

The Liver

The situation, size and structure of this organ, as well as its constant services in every class of animals, at once show to us its importance. Its office it performs in the animal economy, will convince it in obscurity.

As two Physicians's society agree unto the manner of its functioning in perceptive digestion, the thing at concern in this; that its peculiar situation is of the utmost importance in the progress of decomposition. The liver being so frequently the seat of disease, caused the Accidents, which attached even more importance to it than we do; to refer diseases often to this than any other organ; in fact they seldom extended their dissection farther than this—upon which it depended. It is the circumstance, with many others, that has caused it to be in object of curiosity, and importance since the earliest ages. There have indeed many experiments and frequent dissections. The physicians who have seen the liver in jaundice, and in other states, have shown to the ingenious themselves. They appear to have settled the matter satisfactorily (at least to their own minds) in consequence of having, in pursuing their anatomical inquiries, found the organ, so frequently, and



often so extensively diseased, in utero in bodies.

It is not uncommon to find the ovaries enlarged, as good
 sized as even greater, yet being filled with the same, the only structure
 more highly organized, and not at all resembling a cyst. It is
 not so, but is a solid, or nearly solid, substance. Following of ovulation there is
 not a new one, from that of an egg (about of a pea) has been found in
 the ovary in Gallinula. The ovaries have been found very small.
 There has been a specimen where the ovaries were found very much enlarged in
 size, and which appeared to be in early development. The shape
 of the internal structure of this organ has been enlarged by appen-
 dages, as seen in the ovary in a patient of Dr. Thomas Smith. It is
 not uncommon to observe the ovaries enlarged, even of disease.
 This stage of disease is frequently a sign of a disease, as is the
 condition of the ovaries, the state of the ovaries, and the ovaries
 have been observed to form this condition. Some of these appearances
 are peculiar to the ovaries; the ovaries may be found diseased in
 different degrees of the disease. In taking a view of the ovaries
 we should take into consideration in the first place a line prevailing
 over the ovaries, as in the ovaries, as in the ovaries, as in the ovaries.





(1111111)

The remote or existing causes of Jaundice are numerous, and diverse
effected; and according to the vast variety, much difference exists
in opinion concerning the efficacy of the various remedies
employed, and the manner of their use, and the nature of the disease, and
the manner of its cure, in the various details of the disease which
most frequently give rise to this disorder. The following table
quod, constitutes the specified causes of every mode of the
disease which I shall notice - first Inflammation
it is believed produces the disease by causing a thick-
ening of the coats of the ducts, thereby lessening their
calibre. It acts in a second way by affording an
inflammatory exudation, which serves as an nucleus for
the subsequent formation of Calculus. Inflammation of the
substance of the liver it has been said does not produce
Jaundice unless it extends to the ducts. Anger is added as
an example. This may possibly be the common cause, for the disorder
runs so the disease combined. The second cause of Jaundice is
biliary Calculi. There are connections of various compositions that



firm in the gall bladder and liver. They are propelled into the ducts by and power I am unable to say except to be a necessary power of the Gallbladder, or ducts. When these constrictions are too large to pass through the ducts into the duodenum, they block up the ducts and prevent the flow of bile into the intestines; the bile then according to some is absorbed, and to others, requiritales and causes jaundice. But cannot ^{con-}firm I cannot pretend to ~~strongly~~ affirm. But that they have been developed often than it was the real cause; we must not admit. I think however some writers have gone so far as to affirm that the disease could be produced by no other cause. To refute this I need only refer to dissections of inter-ova bodies who no calculi could be found, or was there evidence to prove that any ever existed there, on the contrary it is very common to find subjects in our dissecting rooms with calculi in their gallbladder &c. &c. &c. and I can assure you that the occurrence of jaundice on any fatty liver that I believe is often independent of jaundice the side of the liver, on the other hand, many are the instances in which I have known the disease to be caused by remedies which could have no tendency to produce the expansion or contraction, and another common







[illegible]



[illegible]
$$d\sigma_{\text{tot}}(E) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^\pi d\theta \sin\theta \frac{d^3\sigma}{d\cos\theta d\phi d\theta} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \frac{d^2\sigma}{d\cos\theta d\phi} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta \frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\theta} \quad (1)$$



into the circulation, likewise disappears in the blood. But that the system
 will does not produce the disease by being absorbed, is proved by the
 case of "the skin". In this case, the disease appeared in a individual
 who after death was found to be in a state of quiescence. The ad-
 vance of the absorption doctrine, would now say, it was the absorp-
 tion, but to prove simply, the contrary of this. I must refer then
 to the experiments of Dr. Thomas & Wells of Virginia,
 on the respiratory and on the blood. Experiments were conducted,
 which experiments were performed by Dr. Thomas & Wells of Virginia;
 the results were very bad without showing the disease. I am now
 more than satisfied in the mind that I am aware of the great necessity
 of a more complete knowledge of the blood and of the organs which
 produce it, and the circulation, and without showing the disease, as the
 blood, physical properties, but there is not the case;
 another objection to the idea is, that the blood is taken in the
 arteries for the blood to be taken into the circulation. There is the
 case of the "capillaries", and it is by the capillaries that the blood
 was not allowed for it to pass through the circulation, and to allow
 ing the disease, and also the cases produced by poisoning from arsenic
 and the like.



Should the bilious the circulation, and be the cause of the colour, as
 a thin skin would not be such diversity in the shades of the, or would
 more than one color permeate the body at one time, as in the cases of
 Scurvy, and others, also would it confine itself to a particular part
 while the rest of the system was exempt from it as was the case
 with Mr. Clean's patient, where it was confined to the feet.

The supporters of the doctrine of the absorption
 of the bile, must acknowledge the so objections to their theory.

Whether the bile was absorbed we would be this is not an
 is not an hour in the day that it is not exposed to the
 action of the absorbents of the mesenterium. We don't find this
 even in the most violent bilious attacks, when the
 system is in a state of Severe inflammation, as in Cholera. There is
 no record of its occurrence in this disease.

In speaking of the appearance of the liver in Jaundice we have often
 seen it become enlarged, discolored and even in some cases
 the entire internal structure was changed. I have been present
 when we went across to the appearance of Jaundice in a patient
 who had a liver thus changed, and this too, suddenly?



It would certainly be possible to use the test with suitable modifications, but it is not to be undertaken in this form, a suitable & able response to have to use system when that suitable, positive & can even extend these choices to use, positive in phenomena. This indeed and is the origin of a dimension that is many customers to be does not permit the release of, positive. This is as very often that, get it is necessary made and many more granting its objective in this state & will not give them's to show

the absorption of the oil but allowed to express the pressure of solution
in every way possible. They suppose that the time represented
above of the objective agent against the section is absorption and efflu-
ence. Another view is it possible that in these and caused a fluid
and sometimes the result, and then in in so that a time, and
to affect the whole system almost instantaneously. So we it does not
even over possible that such a demand occur.

Another set of theories concern
it to be in consequence of a translocation of the tube through the
route of the Tollkutter into the cavity of the postnecum. This idea was
recent advanced by Alcock in the Edin. Med. Communion.



[illegible]



the elements of life are not lost, — which we repeat, about the
 process of life, is the result of the law, and can never ^{be} ~~be~~ ^{reversed}
 the process is not to be described by the principle. Thus we presented
 in a brief & manner as far, into the various theories that have
 been devised to explain the different phenomena of life.
 Many of them have been introduced since the present day
 But it is yet necessary for us to state what there is to be the most
 correct view of the phenomena of life — at
 the same time, showing my conviction to a doctrine which
 has not until lately been fully expounded and universally
 promulgated. We are indebted to the ingenuity of Professor
 Huxley for the view of the subject which I set all before,
 and and a little light have been thrown on the subject by the
 intelligible exposition of the invention of Dr. Brown. Both
 experiments I owe much. By each of these gentlemen we are
 led on to seek for this disease in some other organ or
 before than the liver, and by each we are referred to the
 various vessels.

By Dr. Huxley we are told it is to be





existence of the sympathy of distant parts: thus we find
 isolated to us in Alms houses, and other public places institutions,
 as well as in private practice of some character. Particulars,
 as we called on to observe the sympathy that exists between
 the extreme vessels of the skin and brain, and of the brain
 and alimentary Canal &c. To point out in a particular, striking
 manner the sympathy of these various parts, we took advantage of
 a case of the same kind, as we have observed in the Hospital
 of St. George's. The case was such, that any student who attended
 it, he was affected with a most singular ailment, viz. the
 stomach was almost constantly stopping, and he was obliged to be
 treated with a strong, or rather, the best, emetic - he could not
 eat or drink; immediately afterwards the worst kind
 of vomiting supervened. This continuing threw the patient
 between a sympathy, or some sympathy, the nature of which
 we could not determine. But that the brain is sym-
 pathetic in a singular instance, of the existence of sympathy, it
 cannot appear at all late. We are convinced that much
 has been ascertained by ^{consequent} ~~consequent~~ the study of the anatomy



[illegible]









[illegible]



afforded pain, or a bladder filled with warm water. The rectum should be frequently
 examined, as before, in cathartic remedies, or attacks of jaundice. That the
 liver posses the advantage, however, not being certain, it is prudent to be
 careful. Then consider, though recommended for most cases, as purgative, better
 adapted to the rectum, and therefore only resort to it, if the liver is
 calculated for the operation. We may resort to ^{evacuation} ~~evacuation~~ by enema
 cathartics, viz. oil, and there all these have been tried in vain. We may
 open and will remain long to relieve the circulation and remove all the
 stasis should be prevented. In that highly irritated state of the stomach, the
 use of an "old opium pill" will be found to answer perhaps better than any
 other. It is not best to give more than one dose, as it is important to
 keep the system in a state of equilibrium, and avoid excessive evacuations.
 The following is a recipe for a strong
 cathartic medicine, which has been used with success in many cases of
 jaundice. It is given much reliance on the account of its
 being more than 100 years old, and previous to the year 1800.
 It is not little, but has been fully confirmed in every the most ex-
 posed I know there to be no more, and in a case of severe jaundice.

I should refer from the view of the pathology of the disease. I have



[illegible]



Ethnographic paper, containing notes on the habits and
 practices of the people of the island. The most celebrated
 of these is the tobacco. The paper is not quite devoted
 to the history of the people, but to the history of the
 tobacco. It is a very interesting paper, and contains
 much valuable information. The paper is not quite
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and even I could not wear for long. all, it is most stated to me that it blooded the skin. It was used very much diluted 75 to 100 of water. The dose a tablespoonful to a teacup per day. Externally, it is benefited with advantage. I think we are best advised for others to be under the skin, where it is used in the skin, it will be found to feel life often than in other cases in the skin.

That it can be used to an advantage I cannot suppose to be a very inflammatory. This remedy acts by stimulating the system, producing an equilibrium in the circulation. It should not be carried to too great an extent, its fast or intoxicating effects are all that we require of the preparations of mercury the blue mass is perhaps as good as any other we have; tho' I do not know that it possesses any great advantages, as the protochloride of mercury.

When mercury fails Dr. Chapman recommends the nitro muriatic acid, which may be used either externally or internally.

The bismuthous cantharide has been much trusted to. It has the recommendation of Huffer (Hogman), Dr. Good, with a variety of other highly respectable authorities. Jaundice caused by pregnancy commonly requires little to be done. These attacks

* The dose of this is half a wine glass to be taken for three successive
mornings, and then it is to be continued for one day then repeat
the same mode

is generally relieved by delivery, but some have resorted to the use of
the bath condition of such a nature as to cause a
mode of treatment. Infants of this kind are often born
by night for a long time, as magnesium is not in the
but cannot stand it, and the child is often in a state of
adulthood, adapted to the age of the child with increasing
the pain and relief of the child. The child is often in a state
of pain, and the child is often in a state of pain, and the child
for a long time, like most children, and dangerous complications
there is a very dangerous apparatus
recommended in the treatment of the child.

It is a large Airpump capable of removing a body and
extremities, at once. He says by using this machine, the pres-
sure is so strong as to make it possible to produce
the effect of the greater effort. Although not the operation of a
small quantity of blood through the process in natural
superiority, necessity of a more powerful pressure? But in other
respects the ~~operation~~ ^{operation} appears, having substituted is relative
A determination of the surface would be created





here, let it be light and nutritious; it is proper that the bowels should be kept open by mild aperients. Exercise should be advised as soon as the patient is capable of taking it, either on foot, or horseback, or when neither of these are admissible riding in a carriage. A trip to some watering place, will be sometimes salutary. The variety of amusements, the social intercourse with persons from all parts of the country, as well as the exercises, tend more generally to relieve the disease, than the waters, tho' there are not wanting instances of the disease being cured by the use of the waters from these things. Thus have the sulphur springs been long celebrated, as being effectual in Hepatic affections, and most of the mineral waters have been useful in jaundice, Seltzer water has been used with advantage—

Tunis



